GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4128
ANSWERED ON:10.04.2003
FACILITIES UNDER DISABILITY ACT
DHANI RAM SHANDIL

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the handicap students are provided transport facility, books, uniforms and scholarships under provision of the Disability Act, 1995;

(b) if so, wherther these facilities are being provided in the institutions being run by the Central as well as State Governments;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not providing the said facilities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

(a) & (b) (i) The Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 stipulates that appropriate Governmentsin their comprehensive education scheme shall make provision for, inter-alia, transport facilities, supply of books, uniforms and other materials to children with disabilities and the grant of scholarships to such students attending school.

(ii) The Department of Secondary and Higher Education in the Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) in regular schools that also helps facilitate theirretention in the school system. Under this scheme, 100% financial assistance is being provided to State/Union territory/non-governmental organizations (NGOs)for providing facilities that include books & stationery, uniform, transport, reader & escort allowance, etc. Scholarships are not provided under the IEDC schemebut most State Governments award scholarships to disabled students at the school level and have varying additional incentives by way of uniforms and books.

(iii) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has introduced the Scheme ofNational Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities from the year 2002-2003. 250 awards each for male and female students in different categories of disabilities will be given for pursuing technical and professional courses.

(c) & (d) Except for Uttaranchal, Jammu & Kashmir, Pubjab and LakshadweepAdministration, all States and union Territories are accessing funds under IEDC.